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Docket No. AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER 1823-0123PUS1 Application No. Filing Date Examiner Art Unit September 3, 2004 10/501,503-Conf. #008273 J. L. Savage 1775 Applicant(s): Ryou OBARA Invention: THERMAL SPRAY COATED PISTON RING **MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Claims Highest Remaining Number Number Previously Extra Claims After Amendment Paid Present Rate 20 **Total Claims** 16 Х Independent 3 3 X Claims Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: **Small Entity** x Large Entity No additional fee is required for this amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of \$ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. x | Credit any overpayment. Charge any additional fiting or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. JAN 3 2006 Dated: Marc S. Weiner Attorney Reg. No.: 32,181 BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

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(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ryou OBARA

Conf.: 8273

Application No.: 10/501,503

Art Unit: 1775

Filed: September 3, 2004

Examiner: Savage

For: THERMAL SPRAY COATED PISTON RING

SUPPLEMENTAL REMARKS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.